

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Jordan	REPORT NO.	CS-8216
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR CITY AND COUNTY)

1. Prime Minister Tawfiq 'Abd-al-Huda, in order to strengthen his position against the opposition, has been attempting to gain the support of ex-Mufti Hajj Amin al-Husayni's followers in Jordan. In line with this policy 'Abd-al-Huda has taken the following steps:

- a. Permitted Faysal Nabulsi, exiled ex-Mufti supporter, to return to his home in Habbaniya.
- b. Allowed Avni 'Abd-al-Hadi, Jordanian Ambassador to Cairo, to meet with the ex-Mufti in Cairo and discuss the Palestine and refugee problems.
- c. During December 1952, considered appointing Dr. Da'ud al-Husayni,¹ ex-Mufti strategist, to the newly-created position of Deputy Minister of the Interior in Jerusalem.
- d. Sent Salim al-Bakhti and Wasfi Mirza, pro-Government deputies, to sound out political leaders in Jordan regarding their reaction in the event of the ex-Mufti's return to Jordan.²
- e. During February 1953 while on leave, met with Asim Ghuri of the Arab Higher Executive (AHE) and discussed the refugee situation in Jordan.

1. Khalil al-Khayri, Minister of Commerce and Economics, was sent by 'Abd-al-Huda to discuss the appointment with al-Busayni who is generally recognized as the present leader of the ex-Mufti's followers in Jordan. Al-Busayni stood trial for the assassination of the late King 'Abdullah but was acquitted.

2. Although it is improbable that 'Abd-al-Huda will arrange for the return of the ex-Mufti at this late date, in view of the coronation of King Husayn on 2 May 1953, the overtures noted above have strengthened 'Abd-al-Huda's position. Should either 'Abd-al-Huda or Sa'id Mufti, his supporter, be asked by King Husayn to form a cabinet, it is likely that they will enjoy the support of the ex-Mufti group.

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